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Letter dated 24 March 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter dated 13 March 2006 from the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations and its annex addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/168), I have the honour to state the following:

The Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects the contents of the annex of the aforementioned letter regarding the claims of the United Arab Emirates over the Iranian islands of Abu-Musa, the Greater Tunb and the Lesser Tunb, and reiterates that these islands are and will remain integral and eternal parts of Iranian territory. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to emphasize its principled position on the importance of the continuation of positive and constructive negotiations between the Iranian Government and the relevant officials of the United Arab Emirates in order to expand the bilateral relations and to remove any misunderstanding between the two countries with regard to the implementation of the 1971 memorandum of understanding between Iran and Sharja.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Javad **Zarif**

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